

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SS-15 NSC-05 L-01 H-01 PRS-01

PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EURE-00 SCI-02

DRC-01 NIC-01 /049 W

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P R 151514Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0510

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4747

VIENNA FOR USIS - PASS TO USIA ASST. DIR. SHIRLEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEFC RO

SUBJ: ROMANIAN PROPOSAL TO SPEED UP RENEGOTIATION OF USG-
GOR CULTURAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT

1. MFA PASSED TO US TODAY DRAFT AGREEMENT (ACORD) ALONG WITH PROPOSAL SECRETARY AND FONMIN MACOVESCU SIGN IT DURING UPCOMING VISIT. DRAFT WAS PRESENTED TO PAO FERNANDEZ BY ION ROSIANU, DEP. DIRECTOR MFA DIRECTORATE FOR PRESS AND CULTURE DURING CALL MADE IN RESPONSE TO ROSIANU'S REQUEST TWO HOURS EARLIER. DRAFT IS ESSENTIALLY "UMBRELLA AGREEMENT" IN OUR TERMS (CALLED ACORD BY ROMANIANS) AND DOES NOT INCLUDE IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS/ANNEXES (CALLED "PROGRAM" BY ROMANIANS). PAO NOTED THIS PROPOSAL PROVIDES VERY SHORT TIME BEFORE SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL.

2. ROSIANU PROPOSED NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENT HERE OR IN WASHINGTON WITH BUCHAREST BEING PREFERRED SITE FROM MFA POINT OF VIEW. HE STATED THAT GOR PREFERS TO NEGOTIATE IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS/ANNEXES AFTER JANUARY 1 SINCE GOVERNMENT AND PARTY ORGANS WILL BE OCCUPIED WITH PARTY CONGRESS IN LATE NOVEMBER AND FOLLOW-UP ON SAME DURING DECEMBER. WE
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WONDER IF THERE ARE ANY LEGAL DIFFICULTIES IN ROMANIAN

PROPOSAL SINCE EXISTING AGREEMENT WHICH REFERS TO SPECIFIC PROGRAMS EXPIRES ON DECEMBER 31 WHICH WOULD TECHNICALLY LEAVE US WITHOUT A SPECIFIC PROGRAM AS WE ENTER THE NEW YEAR AND UNTIL A NEW PROGRAM IS NEGOTIATED. TACTICALLY WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE NEW PROGRAM WORKED OUT BEFORE YEAR IS OUT.

3. SUDDEN PRESENTATION OF THIS DRAFT AGREEMENT AT THIS TIME SOMEWHAT PUZZLING SINCE AMBASSADOR, USIA ASST. DIR. JOHN SHIRLEY, AND PAO MEET OCTOBER 14 WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VASILE GLIGA AND WITH COUNSEL FOR SOCIALIST CULTURE AND EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT DIMITRU GHISE YESTERDAY, AS WELL AS WITH DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION RADU BOGDAN. DESPITE OUR REFERENCE TO DISCUSSIONS IN DECEMBER NO MENTION WAS MADE DURING ANY OF THESE MEETINGS ABOUT TIMETABLE FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF NEW AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT ROMANIANS WOULD PROPOSE PRESENT SCHEDULE OF GENERAL AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS IN TWO-WEEK PERIOD TO BE FOLLOWED BY NEGOTIATIONS OF IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS/ANNEXES NEXT YEAR.

4. WE LEAVE UP TO WASHINGTON DESIRABILITY FROM SECRETARY'S STANDPOINT OF HAVING AN AGREEMENT TO SIGN AS WELL AS FEASIBILITY OF WASHINGTON PREPARATIONS BEING COMPLETED IN TIME. FROM HERE WE THINK SECRETARY'S VISIT IN ITSELF IS QUITE SUFFICIENT. WE CAN HANDLE NEGOTIATIONS HERE PRIOR TO SECRETARY'S VISIT, IF THAT IS DESIRED.

5. TEXT OF ROMANIAN AGREEMENT AND EMBASSY COMMENTS FOLLOW.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUCHAR04747
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740292-0919
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741047/aaaaboez.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN PROPOSAL TO SPEED UP RENEGOTIATION OF USG- GOR CULTURAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT
TAGS: OEXC, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005